

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-26 (cancelled)

27. (new) A method for abrading human or animal tissue comprising contacting the tissue with a bioactive material.

28. (new) The method of claim 27, wherein the bioactive material is selected from the group consisting of bioactive glass and bioactive ceramics.

29. (new) The method of claim 27, wherein the bioactive material comprises bioactive glass.

30. (new) The method of claim 27, wherein the bioactive material comprises bioactive ceramic.

31. (new) The method of claim 27, wherein the bioactive material comprises sodium, calcium, and silicon.

32. (new) The method of claim 27, wherein the bioactive material comprises between about 30% and about 96% by weight of silicon dioxide oxide (SiO_2), between about 0% and about 35% by weight of sodium oxide (Na_2O), between about 4% and about 46% by weight calcium oxide (CaO), and between about 1% and about 15% by weight phosphorus oxide (P_2O_5).

33. (new) The method of claim 27, wherein the bioactive material comprises between about 1% and about 15% by weight phosphorus oxide (P_2O_5), between about 0% and about 25% zinc oxide (ZnO), between about 0% and about 35% by weight of sodium oxide (Na_2O), and between about 0% and about 10% Al_2O_3 .

34. (new) The method of claim 27, wherein the bioactive material comprises between about 0% and about 30 % by weight sodium oxide (Na_2O), between about 0% and 30 % by weight potassium oxide (K_2O), between about 4% and about 46% by weight calcium oxide (CaO), and between about 10% and about 70% by weight phosphorus oxide (P_2O_5) and between about 0% and about 10% by weight aluminum oxide (Al_2O_3).
35. (new) The method of claim 27, wherein the bioactive material comprises a zinc-releasing compound.
36. (new) The method of claim 27, wherein the bioactive material comprises a silver-releasing compound.
37. (new) The method of claim 27, wherein the bioactive material comprises a copper-releasing compound.
38. (new) The method of claim 27, wherein the bioactive material comprises a magnesium-releasing compound.
39. (new) The method of claim 27, wherein the bioactive material comprises mineral salts or oxides selected from the group consisting of copper, zinc, silver and magnesium.
40. (new) The method of claim 27, wherein the bioactive material provides an anti-inflammatory effect.
41. (new) The method of claim 27, wherein the bioactive material provides an anti-microbial effect.
42. (new) The method of claim 27, wherein the bioactive material provides an anti-oxidant effect.
43. (new) The method of claim 27, wherein the bioactive material accelerates or improves wound healing.

- 44. (new) The method of claim 27, wherein the bioactive material provides an anti-inflammatory effect.
- 45. (new) The method of claim 27, wherein the animal tissue is human skin.
- 46. (new) The method of claim 27, wherein the bioactive material comprises powder mixtures which comprise inorganic bioactive material.
- 47. (new) The method of claim 27, wherein the bioactive material comprises small particles bonded to larger particles.
- 48. (new) A method for operating dermabrasion equipment comprising using the equipment to apply an abrasive material comprising a bioactive material to a human or animal tissue, whereby the dermabrasion equipment clogs substantially less than with abrasive materials not containing a bioactive material.